

## DDC NOTES – FEBRUARY 2023

### DD COUNCIL SAYS THANK YOU TO OUTGOING MEMBERS AND WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Derek Smith, Cindy Taber, Tania Kostal and Marcie Lorensberg fulfilled 6 years as members of the Council – we will miss their guidance. New members include Katie Armstrong, Joe Carlson, Diane Flahaven Neu, James Macris, Keith Rick, Brenda Smith, Elizabeth Tiger and Shawnie Rechtenbaugh

**LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS** – The SD Council on Developmental Disabilities is looking for new members – please apply by March 1. Contact Arlene with questions. Application enclosed/attached.

**FAMILY & SELF-ADVOCATE RESOURCES** - The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has added a new Family and Self-Advocate Resources section to their website – check it out at <https://dhs.sd.gov/developmentaldisabilities/familyresources.aspx>! This is where DDD will share information specifically targeted to Families and Self-Advocates, such as:

- Registration, recordings, notes, and presentations for quarterly Family & Self-Advocate Conversation Sessions;
- Family Support Council information
- Listserv sign-up to receive communication directly from DDD.

New additions include videos titled “What is an ISP and Why Do I Need One?”, “All About Eligibility”, “Self-Directed Services”, “Finding & Selecting a CHOICES Provider”, “What is the Role of my CHOICES Case Manager or Family Support Coordinator”, and “CHOICES & Family Support 360 Services”.



### I Belong Project

<https://americaskidsbelong.org/sd/> One of America’s Kids Belong’s signature programs is The I Belong Project™, which uses high quality videography to give children in foster care a face and a voice. These videos serve as individual recruitment tools for foster children who are legally-free for adoption and are waiting for their forever family. Learn more about how each of us can help children with higher levels of needs. View the videos here: , <https://americaskidsbelong.org/videos-sd/>

**FREE COVID TEST KITS AVAILABLE** - Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order a 3rd round of free at-home tests. If you are interested in requesting these free testing kits, visit: <https://www.covid.gov/tests>

The **Center on Youth Voice, Youth Choice (CYVYC)** has launched a new website. CYVYC is a national youth resource center on alternatives to guardianship. It promotes the use of alternatives to guardianship nationally through research, self-advocacy, outreach, coalition building, and education. The new website features: • a US map with information about alternatives to guardianship in different states; • photos and bios of Youth Ambassadors and a Youth Ambassador Training Curriculum; • resources for many different audiences including ones written in plain language; • stories about youth; and • information on state teams that are part of a national Community of Practice. FMI Visit the new CYVYC website to learn more at [www.youth-voice.org](http://www.youth-voice.org).

**#ForeverLearning605** - <https://www.healthconnectsd.org/foreverlearning605>

Check out this site to see what youth and young adults are doing around South Dakota. Connect with them to share your story. [director@healthconnectsd.org](mailto:director@healthconnectsd.org)

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

|           |                                                                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mar 22    | Huron, Division of Developmental Disabilities Safety Care Training for Families       |
| Apr 13-14 | Huron, SD Early Childhood Education Conference, SDAEYC & SD HeadStart                 |
| Apr 18    | Vermillion, Division of Developmental Disabilities Safety Care Training for Families  |
| Apr 21    | Sioux Falls & Zoom, DD Council Quarterly Meeting                                      |
| Apr 26    | Zoom, Division of Developmental Disabilities Stakeholder Collective                   |
| May 6     | Sioux Falls, The Style Show by Rare by Design                                         |
| May 11    | Zoom, Division of Developmental Disabilities Family & Self-Advocate Conversation      |
| May 16    | Sioux Falls, Division of Developmental Disabilities Safety Care Training for Families |
| Jun 7-8   | Sioux Falls, Lighting the Way Autism Conference, Augustana University                 |
| Jun 9-10  | Aberdeen & Zoom, Family Support Council Quarterly Meeting                             |
| Jul 26    | Zoom, Division of Developmental Disabilities Stakeholder Collective                   |
| Aug 10    | Zoom, Division of Developmental Disabilities Family & Self-Advocate Conversation      |
| Sep 6-7   | Sioux Falls, South Dakota Conference on Developmental Disabilities                    |
| Sep 8-9   | Sioux Falls & Zoom, Family Support Council Quarterly Meeting                          |
| Sep 21-22 | TBD, Early Learner South Dakota Summit                                                |
| Oct 12-14 | Deadwood, South Dakota School Age Care Alliance (SoDakSACA) Conference                |
| Oct 23-25 | Pierre, Fall Rehab Conference                                                         |

Additional trainings and free webinars can be found at South Dakota Parent Connections' website - <http://www.sdparent.org/web/index.php?siteid=2825>

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\* FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE for People with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families** –The Council has set-aside funding for *BOTH in-state and OUT-OF-STATE travel assistance for the upcoming fiscal year*. Limited funds are available. Guidelines and application forms can be requested from the Council Office or found at the Council's web site.

## **FUTURE ISSUES OF DDC NOTES**

- If you receive this via regular mail and want to receive it by e-mail, let me know and I'll make that change.
- If you no longer want to receive this information, let me know and I'll take you off the list.
- If you know of others who may be interested, please share this with them or have them contact me to be added to the mailing list.